

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Council Ponders Upgrading Permit Process for Events on City Land

by Kathleen Gallagher

“Don’t tread on me” was a predominant message sent by various festival and event organizers to city council and staff at a Greenbelt City Council worksession on August 18 to review the first draft of an expanded policy on issuing permits for outdoor events and for public meetings. All councilmembers were present. In response to a request made by council last year, Joseph McNeal, assistant director of the Recreation Department, had headed up the drafting of a more detailed policy and permit application process than that currently in force.

Council’s request to beef up the policy had been in part sparked by issues involving the location and safety of food trucks, particularly at Roosevelt Center. Another factor is that the number of larger festivals and events being held in the city have increased in recent years. Although most concerns focused on Roosevelt Center, the need for consistency in approach throughout the city was stressed by Mayor Emmett Jordan.

Councilmember Edward Putens raised a counterpart theme for the evening. He said that while policies should be comparable in different parts of town, distinctions needed to be made among larger and smaller organizations and their functions and resources.

McNeal, backed up by Jordan and City Manager Michael McLaughlin, emphasized that “first draft” was the operative

concept regarding the document being reviewed and that getting the benefit of opinions and experiences of event organizers was intended to be part of the process of revising and fine-tuning the new policy. Jordan added that council had just received the draft the previous Friday so that this was the first review and discussion. He also said council was aware that there had been delays in issuing permits over the last year and that these delays were attributable to council’s request for review of the permitting process.

Wide Range

Noting that opinions of city councilmembers had ranged rather widely on some of the issues involved, McLaughlin said that staff had done their best to take into account varying points of view. He added that council had indicated that the draft policy should be referred to a number of its advisory groups.

By the end of the worksession, agreement was reached to send the draft to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, the Public Safety Advisory Committee, the Arts Advisory Board, the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, the Community Relations Advisory Board and the Youth Advisory Committee for their opinions. Since the process of review and comment by advisory groups sometimes stretches out for quite a while, council also made it

clear that the groups should be instructed that a prompt review and response was needed.

McNeal first walked council through the draft policy and application form, each of which was three pages long. He explained that the recreation department had taken the lead on the revision since it has responsibility for use of most of the facilities and already has many rules and regulations for their use. Although there have been some problems with permitted uses, the city has dealt with them on an ad hoc basis, he said. However, with the number of outdoor events increasing, so have problems.

Other Communities

McNeal reviewed the event-permitting policies of a number of other government jurisdictions. He found Montgomery County’s to be most useful. He said there is little consistency from jurisdiction to jurisdiction on specifics. Applications need to be submitted at least 60 days in advance, instead of the current policy of five days. McNeal explained that the 60 days was intended to allow adequate time for city review and approval before people had to begin spending money on such things as equipment and vendor licenses. McLaughlin added that the longer lead time should not be a problem for larger events, however, it might come as a shock to smaller groups.

See **COUNCIL**, page 6



PHOTO BY THOMAS WEYBURN, MPT

Greenbelt Museum Director/Curator, Megan Searing Young, poses with two of her favorite historical figures, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. The Greenbelt Museum had an information table at the event and also offered tours of the Greenbelt Museum before and after the film showing.

Screening of The Roosevelts Shown in Greenbelt by MPT

by Sandra A. Lange

The new Ken Burns documentary “The Roosevelts: An Intimate History” previewed at the Greenbelt Community Center on Saturday afternoon, September 6. About 100 audience members viewed excerpts from the PBS special that has been airing all week from 8 to 10 p.m. on Maryland Public Television. The 7-part, 14-hour documentary has also been showing on WETA. The film is described as weaving together diaries, letters and contemporary accounts to present the individual stories of Theodore, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, who formed one of the most powerful American dynasties.

On behalf of the city of Greenbelt, Councilmember Konrad Herling welcomed the audience and guests, noting that when President Franklin Roose-

velt visited Greenbelt shortly after its construction by the federal Resettlement Administration in 1937, he had stated that Greenbelt was “an experiment that ought to be copied by every community in the United States.” Herling reminded the audience that First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt visited Greenbelt several times and that citizens persuaded the school board to name the high school after her rather than her husband. “And that’s not all,” Herling commented. To honor Franklin, “the original commercial area of the city was renamed Roosevelt Center in 1982 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his birth and his role in the founding of Greenbelt.”

Larry Unger, MPT president

See **SCREENING**, page 4

Greenbelt Considered Good For Economic Development

by Thomas X. White

On Monday, August 25, the Greenbelt City Council met for the first time with representatives of the Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation (EDC). The purpose of this worksession was to learn more about that organization and how city officials could interact with it on mutual economic development issues and resources. The EDC representatives were Business Development Specialists Larry Hentz and John Mason. All councilmembers except Judith Davis were present.

The EDC is a 501(c)(3) (not for profit) organization established by the county with a 17-member board of directors. Chair and Chief Executive Officer Gwen S. McCall was appointed by the county executive. The corporation provides business resource services intended to attract, retain and expand businesses, create

high quality jobs and expand the county’s commercial tax base. Its mission is accomplished through business development, the Small Business Program/Technical Assistance Center, International Business Development, Workforce Services and Marketing/Communications.

Major Projects

Hentz and Mason characterized the development picture in Prince George’s County as exciting and active with several major projects underway and in various stages of development. They include:

- Purple Line streetcar transit-way from New Carrollton to Bethesda. The project is scheduled to get underway in 2015 (assuming all environmental, rights-of-way issues and funding are resolved). The estimated cost of the proposed public/private

See **DEVELOPMENT**, page 8

What Goes On

Monday, September 22
8 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbelt-md.gov/municipality
Tuesday, September 23
5:30 to 8:30 p.m., GSA Meeting: Scoping Greenbelt Site for FBI HQ, Library
7 p.m., Advisory Committee on Education, Municipal Building
7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, (GreenACES) and Green Team, Community Center
Saturday, September 27
9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Public Lands Day, Schrom Hills Park
Saturday, September 27
1 p.m., Annual Senior Open Forum, Community Center
September 21-27 – Active Aging Week



PHOTO BY Yael Pachino

Eleanor Roosevelt High School’s Dem’ Raider Boyz Step Squad members and staff are recognized by the Greenbelt City Council as the first-place winners in Youth Step USA’s 2014 national stepping competition. Left to right: front row, Elijah Achu, Walter Little, Immanuel Oliver, Alfred Walfall; middle row, Julian Carter, Timothy Roy, Brian Murray, Captain Diallo Boubacar, Joe Woldemariam, Team Sponsor Mary Anne Savercool, Head Coach Richard Melvern; back row, Councilmembers Konrad Herling, Edward Putens and Judith Davis, Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmembers Silke Pope and Rodney Roberts.

Letters



Steve Lindner and Marat Moore bid farewell to Greenbelt.

On Leaving Greenbelt

As my husband and I – and our dog Zoe – pulled out of our GHI parking space on Hillside Road two weeks ago to move back to my native Tennessee, my heart was packed as full as our bulging U-Haul trailer. Driving down I-81 south as the sun went down, I savored Greenbelt memories. Who knew that the social values of the Depression and New Deal would thrive nearly a century later? And who knew that leaving Greenbelt would be so hard?

I knew, of course, it wouldn't be easy to leave friends and neighbors. What I didn't know was that after 13 years as a Greenbelter, the values of the city had become part of the way I saw the world. Being so affected by the community made it hard to find another town as interesting and as much fun.

So in looking in east Tennessee, here was my Greenbelt checklist: a nearby forest or woods. Water – if not a lake, then a river. A walkable and affordable town. An active city government with involved citizens. A year-round swimming pool close at hand. Lots of music and festivals. A local environmental movement. A good community newspaper. A strong sense of history and identity. People who talk to each other and to strangers on the street. I got lucky. I found Jonesborough, a storytelling mecca and Tennessee's oldest town.

I leave with a grateful heart and an abiding belief: Once a Greenbelter, always a Greenbelter!

Marat Moore

Thanks

Thank you so much to our friends and neighbors for their kindness and support. It brought comfort to us during the passing of a loving father and husband.

Julie Strachko and Family

Support Needed

My husband and I went to the Beijing Restaurant on Friday evening and were concerned at the sight of so many empty tables. Those who took care of us said that since the movie theater has closed for renovation, they have had a drastic decrease in customers. We imagine this is true in the other restaurants at Roosevelt Center. We thought it might be helpful to remind our neighbors that the merchants in the Center are our neighbors, too. It is important that we support them, especially when the theater is not open to attract people from outside our community. In Greenbelt we support one another. Let's remember how much we appreciate having these businesses in our community – another reason why Greenbelt is Great.

Jean Cook

Large Turnout Shows Up At Sunday's Artful Afternoon

by Gillian Morley

Dozens of families gathered at the Greenbelt Community Center on Sunday, September 7 to watch a puppet show and create colorful arts and crafts. September's Artful Afternoon, an event held on the first Sunday of each month, featured a performance by Beech Tree Puppets. The group's founders, Ingrid and Ole Hass of Greenbelt, entertained the crowd with their take on an environmentally friendly Ukrainian folktale, "The Giant Turnip."

Over 100 people came to see the show. The kids laughed as the husband and wife duo sang and joked while telling the story of a family and their extra-large turnip.

The event also featured a garden-themed arts and crafts workshop for all ages where children made finger puppets and paper flowers and learned about the environment.

In accordance with the garden theme, the Greenbelt Butterfly Brigade helped lead the workshop. The Butterfly Brigade, wearing butterfly wings and antennae, works to protect Monarch butterflies and other pollinators in the area. Jean Newcomb, co-founder of the group and former artist-in-residence at the Community Center, said it is important to teach young people to love the environment.

"I think people take care of the things they love. If you love the environment and the pollina-

tors, you will take care of them," Newcomb said.

Ivy McCormick, an arts education specialist with the Greenbelt Recreation Department, led the event and was happy with the large turnout. McCormick said events like Artful Afternoon are a great way to get the community to come together and express themselves through art.

"When so many people come, it is a great community experience," McCormick said. Greenbelt City Councilmember Leta Mach attended the event with her husband Darrell and their three granddaughters, Amelia, Alexa and Anna Avila. The girls all said the puppet show was their favorite part of the day, and they went home with homemade finger puppets and colorful tissue paper flowers. Mach said this was a great community event with a great message.

"It brings all age groups together. You saw grandparents, grandchildren and parents all together," Mach said. "It is just great to support the local talent, and the story relates to growing your own food and protecting the environment."

The Community Center is also showing sculptures by David Purcell and aerial photography by Peter Stern, which will be on display until October 17.

Gillian Morley is a University of Maryland journalism student writing for the News Review.



PHOTO BY GILLIAN MORLEY

Young participants are engrossed in the puppet show.

REMEMBERING IZZY
CARTOON CONTEST

For all ages

One panel cartoon (maximum of three entries per person)

Rules & entry forms www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

Submit entries electronically to newsreview@verizon.net AND hard copy to Greenbelt News Review, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Deadline: Friday, September 26, 2014

Winners will be announced at a reception on October 19, 2014

Co-sponsors:

Greenbelt News Review & the Greenbelt Museum

Grin Belt

"Even if you 'unfriend' me, you'll always be my framily, not frenemy."

Celebrate National Public Lands Day

On Saturday, September 27 from 8:45 a.m. to noon, celebrate National Public Lands Day at Greenbelt Park. Come discover the 10 miles of trails, camp in the beautiful outdoors or volunteer to help the park. Volunteers also may participate in several different improvement projects.

Registration starts at 8:30

a.m. and projects will begin at 9. All participants must pre-register by calling 301-344-3948. Greenbelt Park's entrance is located at 6565 Greenbelt Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Kenilworth Avenue. For more information call the park at 301-344-3948 or visit the park's website at nps.gov/gree/.

Greenbelt
News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624
Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Marat Moore, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg and Sylvia Lewis

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Obituaries

Edmund Harold Estes

Edmund H. (Ed) Estes of Parkway died on September 12, 2014 after a long illness. He was born September 15, 1923 in the small town of Magnolia, Md., the son of Virgil C. and Flora Mae Estes. He attended Greenbelt High School before enlisting in the Navy during World War II. After the war he worked at the Navy Yard as a machinist and craftsman until retirement.

Mr. Estes had lived in his apartment on Parkway for over 40 years.

He is survived by two sons, Edmund A. Estes of Cary, N.C. and his wife Bonnie and David Estes of Potomac, Md.; a daughter, Ann Porras and her husband Richard of Phoenix, Ariz.; two granddaughters, Nicola Duke and Brittany Roe; and a great-grandson.

Friends and family may visit at Gasch's Funeral Home on Thursday, September 18 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. A funeral service will be held at Gasch's on Friday, September 19 at 11 a.m. with burial to follow at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery, Crownsville, Md.

GIVES Driving Course

Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES) is sponsoring the AARP Smart Driving Course on Wednesday, November 12, from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., including a one-hour lunch break. The course is designed for drivers age 50 and older, but is open to licensed drivers of all ages. Course completion helps older drivers refine existing skills and develop safe driving strategies for today's challenging driving environment. No tests are required.

To register, call the GIVES office at 301-507-6580 weekdays from 10 a.m. to noon or from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Memory Changes Forum Begins

Beginning Wednesday, September 24 on the second floor of the Municipal Building, the second series of educational and emotionally supportive group services will be co-led by specialists Helen Barnes and Tom Patota from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and run every other week to December 17. When brain problems are persistent or potentially dangerous, medical diagnosis by a doctor is considered prudent.

Physician referrals or cognitive assessments will be requested to help determine appropriateness of potential group members including those in early stages of memory altering illnesses such as Alzheimer's dementia. Call the GAIL Program at 301-345-6660 and ask for Tom Patota to register.



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building
ALL ARE WELCOME.

Mini-Golf Dena Kohn Memorial Scholarship

On Sunday, September 21 from 9 a.m. to noon there will be a fundraiser for the Dena Kohn Theatre Lab Scholarship Fund as a celebration of the life of lifelong Greenbelter Dena Kohn, who died just before her 23rd birthday after a long illness.

The Dena Kohn Scholarship Fund provides scholarships each summer to teenagers to participate in the Theatre Lab's musical Theatre Institute for teens. The fund was established to perpetuate the memory and spirit of Dena Kohn and the values she cherished.

The event will be held at Rocky Gorge Four Seasons Golf Fairway on U.S. Route 29 and Old Columbia Road.

Call Robert Goldberg-Strassler at 301-345-8755 with questions.

2nd Annual Fashion Show and Sale

On Wednesday, September 24 Taylor Marie's Apparel will be at the Greenbelt Community Center gym for the second annual Fall Fashion Show and Sale as part of the Active Aging Week activities. This event will feature Greenbelt residents as the models; the show will begin at 1:30 p.m. Afterwards, attendees can browse the 23 racks of women's clothes and accessories (including a 50% off rack) to see if anything strikes their fancy. Entry to the show is free. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.





GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Come worship with us!
Sunday School 9:45AM
Worship Service 11:00AM

101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.

Clara Young, Interim Pastor





Congregation Mishkan Torah

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation



Condolences to the family and friends of longtime Greenbelter Edmund H. (Ed) Estes, who died September 12 at his home on Parkway after a long illness. He would have celebrated his 91st birthday on September 15.

Sympathy also to the family and friends of Marian Carle, who died September 7 at The Sanctuary of the Holy Cross in Burtonsville at the age of 88. Marian also was a longtime Greenbelter, first in the Lake-wood community with her late husband Ralph Carle, and after his death in her GHI home on Ridge Road. A memorial gathering is being planned.

We were so glad to receive the good news that Luis Loret de Mola of Ridge Road is recovering from his nine-day hospital stay and doing well in rehab at Magnolia Nursing Center. Luis is a familiar face around Greenbelt, helping GIVES with lawn-mowing assignments and in previous years helping to set up the stage at the Labor Day Festival. Best wishes, and hang in there, Luis!

Send us your reports of new babies, awards and honors to share with our readers. We'd especially like to hear more from neighbors in Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West (Franklin Park). To send information for Our Neighbors, email us at news-review@verizon.net or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

— Kathleen McFarland

SCREENING continued from page 1

and CEO, commented that "Greenbelt was a most appropriate venue to preview the documentary," as Greenbelt embodies Eleanor's legacy of volunteerism and community involvement.

A panel discussion moderated by Karen Gibbs, MPT broadcaster, followed the film screening. Panelists were David Thompson, vice president for cultural broadcasting at WETA, who worked with Burns on the documentary, and historian Cathy Knepper who wrote a book about letters written to Eleanor Roosevelt, "Dear Mrs. Roosevelt: Letters to Eleanor Roosevelt Through the Depression and the War." Thompson stated that the Burns crew worked on the documentary for seven years, from inception to promotion. Both panelists felt that current political philosophies and public attitudes would preclude either Theodore or Franklin from being elected today.

Knepper related that Eleanor had a horrific childhood, and all three Roosevelts overcame physical and emotional hardships



on their way to fame and power. Knepper also felt that Eleanor Roosevelt held views on human rights, race, health and education that were at least "two generations ahead of her time."


Moreover, "she would help anyone, with the exception of alcoholics," Knepper observed, a reference to Eleanor's unhappy childhood with an alcoholic father. Thompson and Knepper maintained that both Franklin and Eleanor were well-suited for the times in which they lived. The Great Depression and World War II offered both the chance to provide imaginative solutions to world problems and strong leadership during difficult times.

In addition to the film showing, stuffed teddy bears were collected on behalf of the Theodore Roosevelt Association. Audience members were asked to contribute teddy bears which are then distributed to local children's hospitals. Jim Pehta, on behalf of the Association, stated that over 80,000 children in 65 hospitals have received teddy bears since 1986.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Sat. 9/20 5-7pm Camp Fire and Hot Dog Roast





ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

Worship Sun 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Child Care Available)
Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

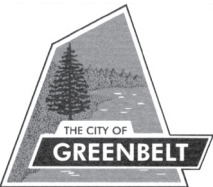
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



September 21, 10 a.m.
Wildfires Burning
Rev. Rebekah Montgomery, guest preacher;
Noel Monardes, Worship Associate and
Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration
Rev. Rebekah Montgomery is a major in the U.S. Army Reserve. She is a chaplain and has served in Afghanistan.



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, September 22, 2014- 8:00 p.m.
Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Sustainable Maryland Certified
- Public Lands Day Proclamation
- National Preparedness Month Proclamation

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

Minutes of Council Meetings

Administrative Reports

Committee Reports

LEGISLATION

- An Ordinance to Ratify and Adopt an Extension of the Franchise Agreement with Comcast of Maryland, Inc. 2nd Reading, Adoption
- A Resolution to Repeal Resolution 1093 and to Establish Admission Fees and Pass Rates for the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center Effective October 1, 2014 2nd Reading, Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS

- Award of Purchase – Police Vehicles
- Belle Point Playground Update
- County Legislation CB 22-2014 – Length of Service Award Program Benefit for Fire, Rescue and EMS Volunteers
- Council Reports
- *- Letter of Support - Utility 2.0 Initiative
- *- Appointment to Advisory Group

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF
September 22-26

Monday, September 22 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday, September 23 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road.

Tuesday, September 23 at 7:30pm, **GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (Green ACES) and GREEN TEAM** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

ACTIVE AGING WEEK
SEPTEMBER 21-27

Get active with a whole week of **FREE** activities for all ages!

Exercise classes and demos, Aquatics classes, Curves Workouts, Walks, Wii, Strategy Games, Fashion Show, Senior Open Forum and so much more! Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov for a complete schedule of activities!
Info: 301-397-2208

Greenbelt Recreation Department

NEW! Exercise at Lunch Class

TABATA EXERCISE TRAINING

TUESDAY, 12:15-12:45

September 16-November 4

Ages 14+ Fee: \$30 for session or \$5 Drop-In

Greenbelt Youth Center

This class alternates periods of short intense aerobic and strength exercises with less-intense recovery periods. These short, intense workouts provide improved athletic capacity and condition, improved glucose metabolism and improved fat burning!
For more info: 301-397-2200

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability and Youth Advisory Committee

For information call 301-474-8000.



PUBLIC LANDS DAY
Saturday, September 27
9:00am-3:00pm
Schrom Hills Park
6915 Hanover Parkway

Show your support for our public lands by planting native plants, clearing out invasive weeds, and picking up litter at Schrom Hills Park. Schrom Hills Park serves as a wildlife refuge in a suburban setting, with remnant tracts of coastal plain forest and a larger wetland complex. It is home to Maryland State and County champion trees and features a community center, athletic fields, paved path, covered picnic pavilion, and playground area.

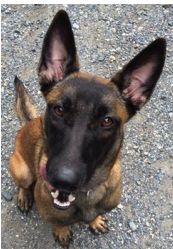
So let's get outside and get active. Participants should wear gloves, clothes and shoes that can get wet. Individuals and groups are welcome.
Info: Brian Townsend 240-542-2158
btownsend@greenbeltmd.gov

DONATION DROP-OFF

American Rescue Workers
Saturday, September 27th, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Parking lot between City Office and Community Center
Info: City of Greenbelt Recycling Office 301-474-8308

ANNUAL SENIOR OPEN FORUM
Saturday, September 27 at 1:00pm,
Greenbelt Community Center
Room 201

This is your chance to speak and be heard about issues that concern you in Greenbelt.
Sponsored by the Greenbelt City Council's Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.



HAVE YOU VISITED THE
GREENBELT
ANIMAL SHELTER LATELY?

550-A Crescent Road
(behind Police Station)

301-474-6124

Come out and visit all of our
available pets!

The shelter is open on
Wednesdays 4-7pm and on
Saturdays 9am-12pm

Zoe now available for adoption. She is female around 2 yrs old. Very active breed. High prey drive (likes to chase smaller animals). Very smart.
See all our adoptable pets on Facebook

Fall in Love with Fashion
TAYLOR MARIE'S

Fashion Show and Shopping Event:
Wednesday, September 24 at 1pm
Greenbelt Community Center Gym
Free Active Aging Week Activity
Petite, Missy & Women's Sizes Available
Cash, Checks and Credit Cards

Are you BRAIN Fit?

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program is kicking off its 2014 Brain Fitness Program! Offering memory assessments, Word Strategy Games and more. Assessments begin **MONDAY, OCTOBER 6**

Last day to sign up is October 9. Participants spend about 15 minutes a day working on activities at their own pace. Program runs from October 13-November 20. Final reassessment will measure your improvement, December 1-4.
Be sure to take advantage of this FREE program.

TO REGISTER CONTACT JUSTIN GORINSON AT
240-542-3002

City of Greenbelt
Superintendent
of Parks and
Grounds

Salary \$61,588 – \$75,000

Greenbelt, MD, a progressive and culturally diverse community of 20,000 located ten miles outside of Washington, DC, is looking for someone to add to its Public Works management team.

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Schedule for
September 22-26

Monday: 8pm-Regular City Council Meeting "live"
Tuesday-Saturday:
10am & 5pm: Labor Day Parade
11am & 6pm: Patty Reese Band
12:30pm & 7:30pm: Replay of City Council Meeting

All Labor Day programming will be uploaded to the city's On-Demand site at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv after it airs on the channel. Coming soon: Labor Day Parade and Patty Reese. Additional Labor Day programming was taped by GATE and will be shown as soon as it is available.

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COUNCIL continued from page 1

Putens said that was precisely the concern he had raised earlier about “one size fits all.” He asked, what about family events, civic or HOA events and people asking to borrow tables?

Scheduling Events

A recurring theme throughout the meeting was the need for an event calendar or other type of information that would allow people organizing events to know when other events were scheduled and thus to avoid the event clumping that too often occurs on weekends in Greenbelt.

Councilmember Leta Mach suggested that organizers be encouraged to participate in already-scheduled city events rather than scheduling separate events on the same days, which lessens anticipated attendance for everyone.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts, however, thought that was going too far. “There are so many things going on in town,” he said. “I see no way the city can co-opt dates. We’ve got to live with it.” He added that organizations have their own schedules and priorities.

Councilmember Judith Davis asked whose responsibility it was to deal with disorderly people. She noted that a problem of this type had arisen at one of the Green Man festivals.

McNeal replied that the policy is clearly stated that the city provides no security. He said it is the responsibility of the organizers to call the police. Davis asked that this be clarified in the revised

policy and that the appropriate police phone numbers be provided.

One provision in the policy that raised concerns was a rather unadorned statement that the city has the right to cancel a permit with as much notice as possible. Davis suggested recasting the statement to make it sound less arbitrary.

Notifying Merchants

Another topic receiving a good deal of discussion was whose responsibility it should be to notify the merchants at Roosevelt Center of events to be held there. The draft policy requires that the organizers notify the merchants at least two weeks in advance.

Davis thought that was too much of a burden and that the city should do it. But McNeal countered that the city would not want this responsibility if information changed later; furthermore, he said, notice from the city could imply that this is a city event.

In response Councilmember Konrad Herling suggested that the city might notify the merchants of permits approved.

Advance Copies

A section on a requirement that organizers supply advance copies of vendors’ sales and use tax licenses and food service facility licenses raised concerns about which organizations this requirement would apply to.

When someone asked, “Does this include the Girl Scouts?” Davis answered, no, it would not include the Girl Scouts. Rather it was aimed at food trucks and

other professional vendors.

She did object, she said, to the aspect requiring the organizer to provide advance copies of the county health licenses. She explained that individual vendors get those licenses, which they have on site, but not necessarily beforehand and that organizers could not be required to submit those in advance.

Putens noted it was the issue of food trucks that had sparked discussion in the first place. Nonetheless, it did not sound as though the city has gotten itself onto one page, he said, about what it could or should do with regard to them. Mach asked where the city would allow them to be.

McNeal replied that in the permit process, the city has to respond to what the vendors propose to do and then permit it or not. Putens felt that council had to first decide whether it would allow food trucks at events at Roosevelt Center. Only if they will be permitted, he said, should council discuss acceptable locations.

Noise Levels

Noting there have been complaints from residents regarding noise levels of music at Roosevelt Center, McLaughlin said there is no one on duty to test it, with the result that the requirement is more or less run on an honor system. The problem with calling the police, he said, is that by the time they can get there, the level may have changed.

Herling suggested that they have an officer from code enforcement or police on duty. After some discussion, however, it was recognized that the problem is a budget and overtime issue.

When Jordan asked when council would return to the question of smoking in Roosevelt Center, he was told that a staff memo would soon be provided to council.

Another permit requirement is that larger events must provide a valid certificate of liability insurance listing the city as an “additional insured” with limits of at least \$1 million per person and \$2 million per accident or injury incurred. Although there was discussion of the added cost, it was pointed out by the mayor that this requirement is not a penalty; rather, it protects the organizers, whose potential liability would be much greater.

A nonrefundable permit fee of \$25 would be instituted. Events that do not require city assistance or equipment and those having fewer than 100 in attendance will not be charged the permit fee. Fees would also be charged for use of such equipment as picnic tables, stage risers and additional trash/recycling cans.

National Night Out

When the floor was opened to questions and comments from the audience, Laura Kressler, chair of the Public Safety Advisory Committee, raised a question about the Neighborhood Watch groups, which put on National Night Out.

Referring to the requirement that events with more than 100 participants be liable for certain fees, she said they have well over 100 participants at National Night Out and little money with which to pay for the use of tables or other equipment.

When she asked if such groups will have fees waived, McLaughlin said the city might need to rework some of the criteria.

Dorian Winterfeld reminded that most of the city’s festivals are a labor of love. Organizers are Greenbelt residents who are not making money from the events. He said the events held in the city have attracted people here, which benefits both the city and the merchants.

Davis said she agreed entirely with what Winterfeld had said but that the support of privately sponsored events with tax dollars also must be considered.

Michael Hartman, president of the New Deal Café, said he thought it was in the city’s interest to provide adequate trash and recycling cans rather than charging for them. He suggested devising a sliding scale for fees. He also suggested the city consider doing a waiver for beer and wine for some events. He went on to question the organizer’s liability on public property if someone were just walking through. He answered that if they had a permit for the area they were liable.

See COUNCIL, page 7

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COUNCIL continued from page 6

Lead Time

George Boyce of MakerSpace spoke to the importance of getting approval on a permit request within a reasonable time in order to go ahead with planning, publicity and other permits. McLaughlin answered the city has turned these requests around in two to four weeks, with the exception of this year, he said, when discussion was underway regarding a new policy.

Concerned with the long lead time on applications, Chris Logan said volunteer groups will always do things spontaneously at the last minute. He questioned the effect of the draft regulations.

He suggested raising the threshold from 100 to 500 in attendance for fees, pointing out that if an outdoor event is going on all day, it takes little time for 100 people to walk through. Logan also thought the clause on the city’s right to cancel was unfair.

McNeal said the city has to reserve that right but would only exert it in case of emergency or some type of damage or threat that made the premises unsafe.

Barbara Simon, president of the Friends of New Deal Café Arts, encouraged the city to think of organizations sponsoring events as its partners. She suggested that the city volunteer more information to organizers on what services are available and how to navigate city processes. “How do you get a banner put up? Whom do you call for this task or that?” she asked as examples.

“We know it’s a partnership,” Simon said. “The city needs to keep it in mind.”

“End of Festival”

Linda Ivy, president of the Labor Day Festival, said unequivocally that if the policy were implemented as drafted, it would be the end of the Labor Day Festival. She agreed with Simon that an outline of how to get through the process would be valuable.

She also thought the clause on the city’s right to cancel should include more information. She said that even the Labor Day Festival did not currently carry the insurance certificate in the new policy that was being listed as required.

Ivy said other items were problems for Labor Day as well, such as the limit on tables to 12, which would mean they could not run bingos.

By far and away, however, her most serious concern was that many of the booths and other associated raffles are there to fundraise, with no separate permission from the city manager to do so. Under the section titled “Money Collection and Fundraisers” this practice would no longer be routinely allowed. She said that many of the changes come across as saying, “We don’t want the festivals.”

The last speaker, Amethyst Dwyer, spoke concerning the visitors and other benefits the festivals bring to the city. Herling agreed. He asked what the city must do is to establish a balance among costs

to taxpayers, the impact on organizations and what the festivals bring to economic development of the city.

Councilmember Silke Pope said this was just the beginning of a conversation. She assured the audience that a result could be reached that would work for everyone.

The mayor thanked everyone for their suggestions and information. He said this input was exactly what was wanted. Speaking the final words of the meeting slowly and deliberately, he said, “This is to be continued.”

Photography Show At the New Deal

Photography by Michael Smallwood and Mark Wamaling will be on exhibit at the New Deal Café through October 30. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, September 28.

The photos in this exhibit represent the work of two artists who have known each other for many years and share an interest in nature. As artists both have worked in various mediums throughout the years but they have used photography to capture their vision of the American landscape as they have experienced it through their travels across the country.

The public is invited to the opening reception with music provided.

Visit Local Artists

Explorations Unlimited welcomes local artists 50 and over from programs and activities that are represented in Greenbelt, including Sew For Charity, Gifts From the Heart, SAGE Art Techniques, Community Center Artists-in-residence and Greenbelt Pottery Group.

Artists will be discussing their programs and displays in the Art Gallery in honor of Active Aging Week from Tuesday, September 23 through Friday, September 26. The Gallery is open on Tuesday from 1 to 10 p.m. On Wednesday through Friday the hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

On Friday, September 26 from 1 to 5 p.m. in the Art Gallery individuals may meet the artists and view their displays. Light refreshments will be served.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center. This presentation will be held in room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are always encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Water Park Offers Free Fun Sunday

Bladensburg Waterfront Park will hold a Free Family Sunday on September 21, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a one-hour canoe, kayak or paddleboat rental. Children under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult. For more information call 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544.

Upcoming Events At The New Deal

Thursday, September 18, Amy C. Kraft will play Mid-Day Melodies from 12 to 2 p.m. Joe Harris will host open mic from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, September 19 John Guernsey will play piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., followed by The Wharf Rats, a fun and lively Grateful Dead jam band, from 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, September 20 Bruce Kritt plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m. Guernsey plays classic standards on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Gina DeSimone and The Moaners offer up an eclectic and upbeat mix of music from all eras from 8 to 11 p.m.

Join the Deaf Brunch on Sunday, September 21 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. A Kids’ Open Mic will follow from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. In the evening, Fez Tone Hafla will perform Middle-Eastern music and belly dancing from 6 to 8 p.m.

Monday, September 22 New Deal directors meeting will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Members and visitors are welcome.

Tuesday, September 23 singer, beat boxer and voice instrumentalist Lipbone Redding will amaze you with his unique style from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, September 24 will be the monthly Cajun Jam from 7 to 9 p.m. Bring an instrument and join in.



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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

DWI/DUI

August 30, 4:20 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A 34-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with alcohol and traffic-related offenses after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

September 6, 9:27 a.m., Kenilworth Avenue and Route 495. A 43-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with alcohol and traffic-related offenses during investigation of a traffic accident. He was released on citations pending trial.

Trespassing

September 9, 6:21 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. A 32-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass after he was observed on the grounds of Franklin Park Apartments after having been banned from the complex by agents of the property. He was released on citation pending trial.

September 10, 12:17 p.m., Breezewood Court and Springhill Lane. A 37-year-old nonresident woman was arrested and charged with trespass after she was observed on the grounds of Franklin Park Apartments after having been banned from the complex by agents of the property. She was released on citation pending trial.

Theft

September 6, 20 Southway. A woman parked her car at a gas pump at the BP Station and while inside saw a car with three men pull in behind hers. One man got out, reached into her open passenger side window and took her purse. He then got back into a vehicle described as a blue 4-door Volkswagen Passat and fled. He is described as a black man with a dark complexion wearing a grey hooded sweatshirt, white gloves and blue jeans.

September 7, 11:39 a.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended purse was taken at the Beltway Plaza Laundromat.

September 8, 1:45 p.m., 7400 block Greenbelt Road. A gym locker at LA Fitness was pried open and a wallet removed.

Vandalism

September 8, 12:15 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. The doorknob assembly on the front door of a residence was vandalized.

Family Is Victim Of Rental Fraud

A family renting an apartment in a Greenbelt condominium association was recently the victim of residential rental fraud. According to police the fraud was discovered after efforts of a vigilant neighbor.

The family had been shown the condominium by the suspect after they had seen it advertised for rent on a nearby supermarket community bulletin board. It had been vacant for some time, and apparently was rekeyed by the suspect in order to gain entry.

The family was told they would be given a discount if they agreed to fix up the unit at their own expense and that they could pay their rent in cash.

A vigilant neighbor brought the situation to the attention of the community's homeowners' association. The victim of the rent scam had to be evicted.

September 10, 5:30 a.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. The rear sliding glass door of a residence was shattered.

Vehicle Crime

A grey 2-door 2009 Honda Accord with Md. tags 8AN5815 was taken from the 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace.

Car windows were broken prior to thefts occurring in the 7800 block Mandan Road (bag-type purse), Mandan Road and Hanover Parkway (cell phone, laptop computer and video game player) and 7900 block Mandan Road (community parking pass).

An attempted theft from an auto was reported in the 8000 block Mandan Road after a window was found broken; nothing was taken.

Tires and rims were taken from a vehicle in the 9300 block Edmonston Road.

Three cases of vandalism were reported. In the 100 block Westway three tires were flattened.

In the 9100 block Springhill Lane paint was damaged when a child about nine years old hit the vehicle with a stick; he then fled.

In the 9100 block Breezewood Drive a side window was broken during a verbal dispute between two friends. The car owner did not want any further action taken. The injured man refused medical attention for a cut on his hand.

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DEVELOPMENT continued from page 1

partnership is estimated at \$2.37 billion with completion in 2020. The closest proposed stations for Greenbelt residents are the College Park Metro Station and three stops on the University of Maryland (UMD) campus.

- Prince George's County Regional Medical Center, to be located adjacent to the Largo Town Center Metro Station, is slated for completion in 2016 at an estimated cost of \$645 million. This new medical facility will replace the existing Prince George's Hospital in Cheverly.

- The proposed Cafritz mixed use project on Route 1 in Riverdale Park is slated to get underway in 2015 and to include the first Whole Foods store in the county, approximately 226,000 sq. ft. of retail, just under 1,000 new residences and a seven-story hotel. Neighborhood and community concerns are mainly related to access and traffic issues for Route 1.

- The MGM Resort and Casino at National Harbor is also projected to open in 2016 to join the Maryland Live Casino at Arundel Mills and the just-opened Baltimore Horseshoe Casino.

- A new UMD Hotel and Conference Center will be located at Route 1 and Paint Branch Parkway. This \$115 million development will be on UMD property but privately developed.

- New Carrollton Multi-Use project, announced this year by Governor Martin O'Malley will include the location of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development as well as 2,400 new residences; 106,000 sq. ft. of retail space and a 300 room hotel.

Konterra and Metro Sites

Following this listing of large development projects, Mayor Emmitt Jordan asked whether there was any timetable for the planned development of the Konterra project in Laurel, adjacent to the intersection of Maryland Route 200 (Inter-County Connector) at Route 1. The EDC representatives indicated that the Konterra project was not yet ready for further development, although they said that infrastructure serving the area is currently under construction.

Other council members asked about the Westphalia project in the southeast part of the county. They expressed concern that this project appeared to be contrary to the county's General Plan. Councilmember Rodney Roberts added his concern about that project because of the expected loss of nearly 500 acres of wooded greenspace.

There was also discussion of the proposed Greenbelt Metro site as a possible location for a new consolidated headquarters for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The EDC representatives indicated that the actual choice among three regional sites for the FBI will be decided by the General Services Administration (GSA) and may not be known until next year. Roberts added that he is wary of GSA ownership or its leasing of space in Greenbelt, with a possible result of loss of real estate tax revenue with government ownership.

Councilmember Konrad Herling also raised the issue of transportation impacts from the projects, noting local concerns by residents living near the proposed MGM Resort and Casino.

Jordan noted the growing number of church sites on the county's main roads. He asked if the EDC assists these types of development. The EDC representatives said that they may be requested to assist with permitting issues for these institutions. Councilmember Leta Mach asked if the EDC is aware of or is providing assistance to cooperative business organizations.

Economic Issues

In keeping with the introductory aspect of the worksession, Hentz and Mason provided information that may be helpful to the city as it gets more involved in economic development issues. They offered to make Greenbelt officials aware of quarterly meetings hosted by the EDC with the development community. They also advised council to take the time and expend energy in getting to know the Greenbelt business community, and to be aware of what was referred to as the "lease-up" list regarding the inventory of available leasable space within the city. Also mentioned was the increasing use and promotion within GSA for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified projects.

The meeting closed with council asking the EDC representatives, "What do you think about Greenbelt?" They responded that the perceptions of Greenbelt were very good. They felt the city had a good mix of prime office space, a mix of housing types, some concentration of health, information technology and cyber-security.

Councilmember Silke Pope and others expressed thanks for the EDC representatives attending this first get-together session.

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Annual Blues Festival Draws Happy Crowd

by Justin Meyer

The smooth sound of the guitar runs through the encapsulated onlookers and extends out into the stone plaza that holds its audience. The drums play the beat that the entranced enthusiasts move to. The New Deal Café overlooks the experience with attendees floating in between its walls and the open air.

This is the 12th Greenbelt Blues Festival. The annual festival has become a staple of Greenbelt’s music scene since it started in 2002. Its sponsor, the New Deal Café, has been an integral part in its success over the last 12 years, said Dorian Winterfeld of Greenbelt, a volunteer who helped put on this year’s festival.

“[The festival] is run by volunteers associated with the New Deal Café,” Winterfeld said. “Over the years a really strong relationship between the Café and the festival has developed.”

Winterfeld said the Greenbelt Blues Festival has made a name for itself.

“It has really taken off the last few years,” he explained. “There are a lot of blues festivals all around DC. I’d say the Greenbelt festival is now on the map with all the others.”

Frank Gervasi, of Greenbelt, another volunteer at the festival, said the event is good for the community. “It brings people together,” he said. “When you fill the air with music it makes the place come alive.”

Norman Taylor, one of the musicians who performed, said he drove two and a half hours from his home in Willingboro, New Jersey for the festival. He said he enjoys these kinds of events. “It’s always good to be at outdoor festivals,” he said. “I’m a huge proponent of live music. It’s a really great way for people to connect. You see all the people out and it’s cool because it promotes local businesses as well.”

Festival-goer Alicia Deligianis, of Rockville, had high praise for the musicians, particularly Kevin Robinson. “Not only can he sing, but he can play really well,” she said. “When you see him play the guitar you feel like you’re in the presence of a star. The music radiates. He’s got this peace about him.”

Winterfeld agreed with Deligianis about Robinson’s performance. “I really enjoyed Kevin Robinson indoors,” Winterfeld said. “It was a very intimate atmosphere. We were inside the Café in a full house listening to his cover of Voodoo Child by Jimi Hendrix.”

Taylor said he likes the inspiration the blues has had on other genres.

“It all comes from the blues,” Taylor said. “[The blues] are the root of American music. People think jazz came along with it, but jazz is heavily blues influenced as well.”

Gervasi also noted the significance of the blues to rock n’ roll. “I don’t think there would be any rock n’ roll without the blues,” Gervasi said. “A lot of early rockers were up tempo blues musicians. All those English rockers came from the blues.”

Deligianis said she likes the blues for the sincerity of its musicians, “There’s nothing false about them,” she explained. “They’re just real and get to the point. They don’t skate around

anything. They just say with true feeling without any fear.”

Taylor said he likes the blues for its message. “I think the blues speak to the human condition,” Taylor said. “The lyrics may seem sad, but when you sing traditional blues tunes they’re uplifting.”

Gervasi said he couldn’t describe why he likes the blues. “It’s like asking you what you love about strawberry shortcake, you just love the way it tastes,” he explained.

Justin Meyer is a University of Maryland journalism student writing for the News Review.



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BOXED: \$9.60 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$14.40). Deadline 10 p.m. Tuesday.

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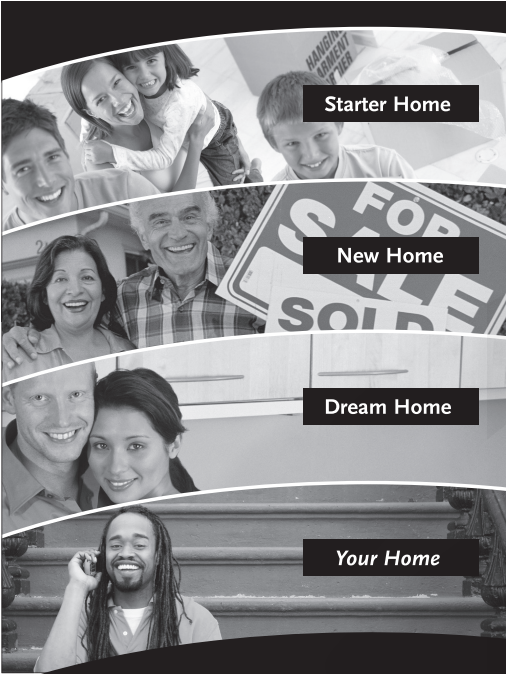
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Your Greenbelt Specialists
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Greenbelt Rhythm & Drum Festival Coming to Center

The second annual Greenbelt Rhythm & Drum Festival will be held on Saturday, September 27 from 11 a.m. until 11 p.m. in Roosevelt Center. This day-long festival will offer performances, drum classes and drum circles for all ages – free! The line-up of multicultural drum ensembles features music and rhythms from Japan, the Caribbean, Africa, Cuba, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. There will be drum classes in West African, Middle Eastern and Afro-Cuban drumming. Between performances, interactive drum jams allow participants to take what they’ve learned in class and to apply it right away. Special kids’ activities include two parades and drum play-stations where kids of all ages can bang, hit, scrape, shake, rattle and roll. There will be stilt walkers, hula hoopers, jugglers and festive clowns to entertain families all day long.

Returning festival favorites include Bele Bele Rhythm Collective, an all-women’s West African drumming troupe and Stream and the Blue Dragons, a Middle Eastern ensemble with an eclectic mix of exotic instruments and belly dancers. The newcomers on the performance stage include the powerful sounds of Miyago Taiko, carefree island rhythms from the Pan Tones, the spicy Afro-Cuban mix of Dom Pakka Tikki and the introduction of Janka Nabay and the Bubu Gang. Nabay is a major figure from Sierra Leone and is known as the King of Bubu Music, a music of

mysterious origins that spans centuries. The drum classes will be taught by Kristen Arant, Daveed Korup, Jaqui MacMillan, Baile McKnight and Jason Walker. The drum circle facilitators are Ken Crampton, Katy Gaughan and Bill Jenkins. Children are welcome to participate in the drum circles. Workshops and drum circles are suitable for beginner and non-beginner drummers.

Drums will be provided for free on site or can be purchased from one of the many vendors. Vendors will offer drums, instruments, multi-cultural arts and crafts, jewelry, clothing and food.

Following the outdoor portion of the festival, Black Masala, a band whose music features a colorful mix of sounds that draw inspiration from the melodies of Eastern European brass bands, New Orleans jazz, Balkan grooves and even a hint of Apalachian twang, will perform inside at the adjacent New Deal Café at 8 p.m.

“The Greenbelt Rhythm & Drum Festival is considered extraordinary because it embraces diversity and inclusion while facilitating connection through rhythm, dance and active participation. Community-building at its finest and most fun!” said Amethyst Dwyer, the festival coordinator, as well as music coordinator and co-manager of the New Deal Café. For more information, visit greenbeltrhythm-anddrumfestival.org

Greenbelt Rhythm & Drum Festival Children's Programs

Area children have compelling reasons to bring their parents out to the Greenbelt Rhythm and Drum Festival this month, a FREE event that features global drum performances, drum workshops, drum circles and arts and crafts vending.

Let’s start with the MotherDrumShip. Built in 2001 by the activist rhythm ensemble Rhythm Workers Union, the MotherDrumShip (MDS) is a relic of sorts. She is a handbuilt drum cart built atop the wheels of an antique baby carriage. Holding 3 large bass drums in her girth, and sporting appendages for rhythm blocks and tom-toms, the MDS sailed the streets of hundreds of marches and rallies for peace and justice in the early 2000s. She sports a high-flying sail and is perfect for children to explore and march astride, or behind, while trying out the different instruments.

The MDS will begin pulsating around 10:30 a.m. at the festival, encouraging what organizers hope to be throngs of children in order to kick off a parade around the Roosevelt Center, complete with accompanying shakers and bells which will be on hand, and the coaching of one Bill Jenkins, father of Bill Jenkins’ World Of Music.

“I’m very excited to be part of the festival again this year, [as] making music with children is my favorite thing,” Jenkins said. “Most parents know that learning music has many educational benefits, but most instruments need a long period

of individual lessons and practice. But with drums and percussion we can be part of a big exciting sound, and lose ourselves in it, and not have to worry about right and wrong notes.”

The parade will culminate into a drum circle with children and young people as the focus, and kick off global drum performances for the festival.

If the excitement of a parade isn’t enough, enter the mighty Baba Ras D and “Harambee” – an interactive presentation where children celebrate learning together through movement in song. This takes place on the main stage from 12:30 to 1 p.m., and again from 1:45 to 2:15 p.m. inside MakerSpace, just steps from the stage.

From Baba’s own website, www.babarasd.com: “In Swahili, Harambee means ‘All pull together.’ Harambee is the practice of hope, possibility and compassion – basically, all the things that happen when we all come together. Baba Ras D is pleased to offer this original ‘musical enlightenment’ for your children to explore. Think of it as your little one’s first opportunity to express his or her voice, dance, play a drum or percussion instrument, shout, or sing along to songs that build character, confidence and community.”

The day-long festival offers performances, drum classes and drum circles for all ages, and features music and rhythms from Japan, the Caribbean, West Africa, Cuba, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Blues Festival Gets Early Start At Beltway Plaza Last Friday

by Margaret DeBlasis

Entering Beltway Plaza Mall on the evening of September 12 was a unique experience. Instead of the hustle and bustle of daily shopping noises, an out-of-place sound bounced off the walls of the building.

“I heard something and I wanted to see [where it was coming from],” said mall-goer Sharon Vazquez. “I always take my son to outdoor music concerts, so when I heard the music I just thought about concerts and stuff. It sounds good.”

Walk to the main atrium in the middle of the mall and you would have found a man whaling away on his electric guitar in front of a banner that read “New Deal Café Blues Festival Roosevelt Center.” People nearby handed out aptly-colored blue flyers with more information on this event while guitarist Kevin Robinson hit the chords of his original songs.

“I like the way Kevin uses his guitar,” said Chris Logan, a member of the Friends of the New Deal Café Arts, or FONDCA, who handed out flyers. “He engages with people walking by and that was the whole idea.”



PHOTO BY MARGARET DEBLASIS

Kevin Robinson plays his guitar in Beltway Plaza September 12 as a preview to the New Deal Café’s annual Blues Festival.

In a publicity preview, Robinson spent two hours that Friday evening playing his songs to gain interest in the annual festival sponsored by Greenbelt’s New Deal Café. Logan mentioned how the mall was a way to reach out to audiences who might not hear about the festival otherwise.

“What I’m looking forward to is a blues explosion because when you start to call on ancestral music as the blues happens to be, you’re calling on all of the energy of the great blues players from Howlin’ Wolf to Muddy

Waters to Jimi Hendrix and [his favorite] Bernard Allison,” Robinson said. “But you know, after thinking and listening to those guys during my life and time, to emulate some of their sounds and bring out that form of expression is really exciting and any time you get to do the blues, that’s real gut music. It comes from the soul and it’s from soul to soul that we reach each other.”

Dwayne Richardson, a mall employee, was waiting to take his wife to dinner when he stopped to listen. “That brings back music from the 70s when I was in high school,” he said, “and it just caught my attention.”

For twelve years, musicians and bands like Robinson’s have performed in the annual Greenbelt Blues Festival. Ten bands, including Robinson and his group K.E.R.Q., were scheduled to entertain audiences at Roosevelt Center the next day. The event was sponsored in part by Beltway Plaza, which is why Robinson performed there.


Margaret Deblasis is a University of Maryland journalism student writing for the News Review.

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Vote Nov 4

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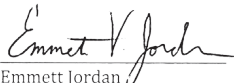
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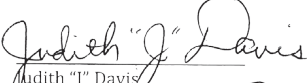



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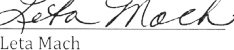
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